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a heparin binding domain derived from $VEGF_{189}$, and $VEGF_{121.5}$ (SEQ ID NO: 62) and $VEGF_{121.6}$ (SEQ ID NO: 63), which include artificial heparin binding domains. Such VEGFs may exhibit higher heparin binding than $VEGF_{165}$ and, thus, can be advantageous in aspects where a heparin binding VEGF peptide portion is desirable. Similar modified heparin-binding VEGFs, which also can be suitable for incorporation in such fusion proteins, are described in International Patent Application WO 98/36075.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Replace the indicated claims with:

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1. (Amended) A fusion protein comprising a first non-heparin-binding VEGF-A peptide portion, or a peptide portion that exhibits at least about 80% homology to a VEGF-A peptide portion, and a second non-VEGF peptide portion covalently associated with the first peptide portion, which first and second peptide portions separately promote angiogenesis or bone growth, and wherein the second peptide portion lacks a collagen binding domain.

2. (Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the first peptide portion comprises a VEGF-A peptide portion which exhibits a higher affinity for KDR receptors than flt receptors or flk receptors.

3. (Amended) The fusion protein of claim 2, wherein the VEGF-A peptide portion exhibits about equal or less affinity for neuropilin-1, neuropilin-2, or both, as $VEGF_{121}$.

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5. (Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the first peptide portion comprises $VEGF_{121}$.

6. (Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the fusion protein has a half-life in a mammalian host at least twice as long as the half-life of a protein consisting essentially of either the first peptide portion and/or at least twice as long as the half-life of a protein consisting essentially of the second peptide portion.

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9. (Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the fusion protein is more angiogenic than a protein consisting essentially of the first peptide portion and/or is more angiogenic than a protein consisting essentially of the second peptide portion.